

HOUSE No. 3843

Message from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, acting Governor, (under section 8 of Article LXXXIX of the Amendments to the Constitution) recommending legislation relative to validating the actions taken at a certain town meeting in the town of Abington. December 8, 2011.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
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December 7, 2011.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article II, Section 8, Paragraph 1, Clause (2) of the Amendments to the Constitution, as amended by Article LXXXIX, I am filing for your consideration the attached legislation entitled, "An Act Validating the Actions Taken at a Certain Town Meeting in the Town of Abington."

Senator Keenan, Representative Diehl and the Abington Board of Selectmen have requested that I file this special legislation on behalf of the Town. The purpose of the legislation is to ratify the actions taken at the October 24, 2011 Special Town Meeting to the same extent as if the warrant for the meeting had been mailed to the household of each registered voter 14 days prior to the meeting as required by the Town Charter. Due to an unanticipated printing delay, the warrant was mailed 13 days prior to the meeting, which constitutes a Charter violation. The bill sponsors are confident that the townspeople did receive adequate notice of the Special Town Meeting through the 13-day advance mailing, the posting of the warrant as required by law and through information on the Town's website.

I urge your early and favorable consideration of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Timothy P. Murray".

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY,
Lieutenant Governor.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven.

AN ACT VALIDATING THE ACTIONS TAKEN AT A CERTAIN TOWN MEETING IN THE TOWN OF ABINGTON.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Notwithstanding section 10 of chapter 39 of the General Laws or any
2 other general or special law or charter provision to the contrary, the acts and proceedings taken
3 by the town of Abington at the October 24, 2011 special town meeting, and all actions taken
4 pursuant thereto, are hereby ratified, validated and confirmed to the same extent as if the
5 warrant for said meeting had been properly mailed to the residence of each registered voter in
6 the town at least 14 days before the meeting as required by the town charter.
- 7 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.